AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On Page 2 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 15 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

When the recording capacity is large, the reduction in the efficiency in the use of the recording medium is insignificant. Thus, the size of the unit area is set to a large value in order to shorten the recording time period. On the other hand, when the recording capacity is small, it is necessary to consider the efficiency in the use of the recording medium as more important than the recording time period, and therefore, the size of the unit area is ~~se~~ set to a small value. Thus, it is possible to manage to shorten a time required to record and prevent the efficiency in the use of the recording medium from being reduced at the same time.

On Page 5 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 22 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

In this embodiment, any one of a ~~fist~~ first resolution (=1600 pixels × 1200 pixels) and a second resolution (=640 pixels × 480 pixels) is selectable as a resolution of the still image. A plurality of compression ratios are prepared for each resolution.

On Page 7 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 24 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

When the second resolution is selected, the CPU 34 instructs the TG 40 to execute a thin-out reading in response to an operation of the shutter button 32. The TG 40 subjects the image sensor 14 to the [[thing-out]] thin-out reading for one frame period. Thus, a raw image signal of low resolution is output from the image sensor 14 in the raster scan manner. The number of vertical lines of the raw image signal output from the image sensor 14 by the [[thing-out]] thin-out reading is one fourth of the number of the vertical lines of the raw image signal output from the image sensor 14 by the all pixel reading. It is noted that the output raw image signal has

color information of R and G by turns in an even-numbered line, and has color information of G and B by turns in an odd-numbered line.

On Page 8 of the specification, the paragraph staring at line 9 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

The raw image signal read in response to the operation of the shutter button 32 is subjected to the above-described processing by the CDS/AGC circuit 16, the A/D converter 18, and the signal processing circuit 20. When the second resolution is selected, a horizontal [[thing-out]] thin-out processing is executed in the signal processing circuit 20 to reduce the number of horizontal pixels to one fourth. Then, YUV data of low resolution is output from the signal processing circuit 20. The YUV data is written to the SDRAM 24 via the memory controller 22. The YUV data of low resolution stored in the SDRAM 24 is then applied to the video encoder 26 via the memory controller 22 so as to be converted into a composite video signal in the NTSC format through a reduction zooming. Thus, a still image (freeze image) of the object at a time the shutter button 32 is operated is output from the LCD 28.

On Page 11 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 13 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

More specifically, if the recordable number of frames is equal to or more than a first threshold value (=100), considering the writing speed of the file as the most important, the cluster size is determined to be a first size (=32Kbytes). That is, if the recordable number of frames is equal to or more than 100, regarding that the reduction in the efficiency in the use of the recording medium 34 is not a large problem, the cluster size is increased. Furthermore, if the recordable number of frames is less than the first threshold ~~vale~~ value and equal to or more than a second threshold value (=50), considering the writing speed of the file and the efficiency in the use of the recording medium 38 as the most important, the cluster size is determined to be a second size (=16Kbytes). In addition, if the recordable number of frames is less than the second

threshold value, considering the efficiency in the use of the recording medium 38 as more important than the writing speed, the cluster size is determined to be a third size (=8Kbytes).

On Page 12 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 15 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

If the recordable number of frames is more than, or at least equal to (i.e., equal to or more than), "100", the process proceeds from the step S7 to the step ~~S11~~ S9 so as to format the recording medium 38 by defining a size of one cluster as 32 Kbytes. Furthermore if the recordable number of frames is more than, or at least equal to (i.e., equal to or more than), "50" and at most equal to (i.e., less than or equal to), or less than, "100", the process proceeds from the step S11 to a step S13 so as to format the recording medium 38 by defining the size of one cluster as 16 Kbytes. In addition, if the recordable number of frames is at most equal to (i.e., less than or equal to), or less than, "50", the process proceeds from the step S11 to a step S15 so as to format the recording medium 38 by defining the size of one cluster as 8 Kbytes. After completion of the format, the process is ended.

On Page 14 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 21 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Furthermore, in the motion image shooting mode, a ~~fame~~ frame rate of the image sensor 14 can be arbitrarily set. That is, it is possible to select any one of a first fame rate (=15 fps) and a second frame rate (=30 fps) by operating a frame rate selecting button 48.

On Page 15 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 25 through Page 16, the paragraph ending at line 9 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Referring to Figure 4, if "YES" in the step S7, that is, if the picture-takable number of frames is more than, or at least equal to (i.e., equal to or more than), 100, the recording medium 38 is formatted by defining the size of one cluster as 64 Kbytes (the fourth size) in a step ~~9'~~ S9'.

Furthermore, if "YES" in the step S11, that is, if the picture-takable number of frames is more than, or at least equal to (i.e., equal to or more than), 50 and at most equal to (i.e., less than or equal to), or less than, 100, the recording medium 38 is formatted by defining the size of one cluster as 32 Kbytes (first size) in a step S13'. In the steps S9' and S13', the writing speed in the motion image shooting mode is considered as the most important. It is noted that if the picture-takable number of frames is at most equal to (i.e., less than or equal to), or less than, 50, a format is performed by defining the size of one cluster as the third size in consideration of the efficiency in the use of the recording medium 38 as the most important in a step S15.

On Page 16 of the specification, the paragraph starting at line 18, through Page 17 of the specification, the paragraph ending at line 3 thereat, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Referring to Figure 6, the recording capacity of the recording medium 38 is detected in the step S3, and the detected recording capacity is determined in the steps S7' and S11'. If the recording capacity is more than, or at least equal to (i.e., equal to or more than), 64 Mbytes, the process proceeds from the step S7' to the step S9' so as to format the recording medium 38 by defining the size of one cluster as 64 Kbytes. Furthermore, if the ~~recordable number of frames~~ recording capacity is more than, or at least equal to (i.e., equal to or more than), 32Mbytes and at most equal to (i.e., less than or equal to), or less than, 64 Mbytes, the process proceeds from the step S11' to the step S13' so as to format the recording medium 38 by defining the size of one cluster as 32 Kbytes. Furthermore, if the ~~recordable number of frames~~ recording capacity is at most equal to (i.e., less than or equal to), or less than, 32Mbytes, the process proceeds from the step S11' to the step S15 so as to format the recording medium 38 by defining the size of one cluster as 8 Kbytes. After completion of the format, the process is ended.